**RUNWELL ROUNDABOUT**

**SPRING EDITION 2015**

 RUNWELL ROUNDABOUT is sponsored by Runwell Parish Council:

 Keeping you informed about issues affecting Runwell Residents. Every effort is made to ensure the information in this newsletter is correct. The Parish Council cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed in this edition are not necessarily those of the Runwell Parish Council.

WELCOME to this Spring Edition of the Runwell Roundabout, can’t believe we started this thirteen years ago, a lot of water has gone under the bridge since then, almost took us with it. Anyway we hope that you will find something of interest in this edition.

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Monday 16TH March 2015**

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on Monday 16TH March 2015 8pm in Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford, Essex SS11 7JE.

We are taking this opportunity to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the Parish Council on the 16th March 1925.

Runwell Parish Council invites residents to the Annual Parish Meeting, an opportunity to meet some of the Parish Councillors together with members from the Village Groups. Do come along and let us hear your views.

The Parish Council Elections are due this year please see back page for more information.

**RUNWELL PARISH COUNCIL 90TH ANNIVERSARY**

The Parish Council was formed on the l6th March 1925 at an assembly of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Voluntary School on the corner of Church End Lane, now the Old School House. There were originally five Members:

 HC Carruthers - Ethelred Gardens

 Rev JEB Corbin - The Rectory

 Mr Rushbrook - Southlands Farm

 Mr A Suggars - Athelstan Gardens

 Mr Woodruff - Brock Hill

 Mr JG Davey - Ethelred Gardens elected as The Clerk

At the Parish Meeting on Monday 16th March 2015 there will be a small presentation of times past covering 90 years of the Parish Council and life in the Farming Community of Runwell. At the time probably about ten farms in the area. Why not come along on 16th March and find out more about what was going on in the 1920s, 30s, 40s up to the present day. You just might find something of interest.

INFILL TIME:

Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than Hardening of the arteries!

**THE 4OTH BOXING DAY WALK** - thanks to all who came, there were 50 of us and we had a very good time. Walking along Footpath No.10 around the Old Hospital site we had to make three diversions as trees had fallen across the path, these will be cleared by next time. At the start of the walk we had a collection for the Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund the Brain Tumour Charity. We raised a total of £176.60. Again a Big THANK YOU to all who came along. Hope to see more of you next time - David De’ath Walk Leader.

**ALLOTMENT UPDATE** - After last year’s successful harvest, I am hoping for the same this year. All the beds are looking good, just waiting for a bit of warmth to start the planting. I am still picking leeks, Spring onions and swede. “Bramble Lodge” our composting toilet was officially opened on December 20th 2014, and very nice it looks too. A few spare plots available at the moment. Enquiries Linda 01268 732033.

**RUNWELL HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

Meet Second Monday in the Month at 8.00pm in the Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell. Due to the closure of the Village Hall for maintenance work the July meeting will be held at Christchurch Wickford. The Trading Hut at the rear of the Village Hall opening times Sundays only 10.00am-12noon. February to July and September. Closed August, October to January.

The AGM will be held Monday 9th March and the Spring Show Saturday 21st March, renew your membership at the AGM.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN YOUR LOCAL HISTORY**?

**Wickford Community Archive** is a website created and being developed by local volunteers, preserving our history for the future. We need memories, photographs and local knowledge of Wickford of the distant past and of more recent times. “Wickford” for the purpose of this Archive, includes **RUNWELL,** Shotgate, Rawreth, North Benfleet, Crays Hill, Downham and the Ramsdens, although the boundaries are very flexible.

The Archive was formed in 2011 with a small lottery grant and has developed into a very interesting, informative and fun site. It’s surprising what people have found in their lofts and photograph albums and we have had ‘hits’ from all over the world, usually averaging about 40 per day. Our most successful ‘hit’ day was when we had over 639 hits on one day, followed by over 900 during the next five days. We thought our site had been hacked but realised it was the day that Downton Abbey mentioned the Wickford Nudist Colony. Fame at last!!!

You can meet members of the Wickford Community Archive Group at their Memory Desks which are at Wickford library on the 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month, from 10.00am until 12noon.

We will be on hand: to show people how to access and use the site; to scan photographs for including on the site; and to take the names of those people who would like to have their memories recorded. Please spread the word for us amongst your friends, family and neighbours who might be interested in contributing or just looking at the site.

Please visit our Wickford Community Archive site at:-

 [http://www.wickfordhistory.org.uk](http://www.wickfordhistory.org.uk/) or Google us at - Wickford Community Archive

**HERE’S A THOUGHT** - If all the people who go to sleep in church were laid end to end they’d be a lot more comfortable’ **AND ANOTHER** - Have a place for everything, and keep the thing somewhere else. This is not advice - merely custom, according to Mark Twain.

*The Sarah Kitchener Perrow Fund (Raising Funds for Brain Tumour Research) – wish to thank*

*everyone who supported the Charity Barn Dance held last year which raised the grand total of £679, are holding another, details:*

**CHARITY BARN DANCE**

Dance to the music of “Garlic Spread”

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH 2015 8PM TO 11PM.

Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, Runwell

Tickets £15 including Chicken & Chips Supper

 (Vegetarian option on request}

Please bring own drinks

Tickets please contact Philip by email Phil.kitchener@hotmail.co.uk

Or mobile number 07810242877

We look forward to meeting you there.

**JUST MOVED INTO THE AREA OR RECENTLY RETIRED?** - or perhaps fed up with doing the same old thing, there are several clubs that meet on a regular basis in the Runwell Village Hall, Church End Lane, that you might be interested in.

**BALLROOM/LATIN DANCE CLUB** - Beginners welcome; tuition given in Ballroom and Latin. Meet every Tuesday 8pm-l0.15pm. Even experienced dancers can learn new steps. For more information ring the Membership Secretary (Evenings) 01268 761526 or Secretary 01268 734100.

**GAMES CLUB** - Meet on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.30pm come along and join us for a game of cards, darts and other board games even a chat. We have a raffle and provide tea and biscuits or coffee if you prefer. If you are interested for more information ring 01268 765282

**GET IN SHAPE WITH KATE** - Do you want to feel fit and look fabulous then this is for you Monday’s 10am-11.30am for exercise and advice on diet. Contact Kate West 01277 651185

e-mail: kate1west@talktalk.net or Mob.07932 691419

For more activities go to: [www.essexinfo.net/runwell-parish-council/](http://www.essexinfo.net/runwell-parish-council/)

**ACTION FOR FAMILY CARERS** - Information and Support for Family Carers.

A Carer is someone who without payment provides help and support to a husband, wife, partner, child, relative, friend or neighbour who could not manage without their help. This could be due to age, physical or mental illness, addiction or disability. We are a charitable organisation and can offer all sorts of help call us 01621 8511640 or email: info@affc.org.uk Free & Confidential Service. Come and see us in The Plazma Bar, Wickford High Street 10.00am 4th Tues. monthly.

**MEMORIAL PARK BOWLS CLUB** - a small friendly club which until a few years ago was known as the Royal British Legion Bowls Club; because we are a small club members can be confident that they will get all the games they want. We are looking to welcome new members for the 2015 Season. Free tuition given and bowls can be borrowed. Ring 01268 781226 mob 07802 814249 or 07772 262937.

**RUNWELL VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE** - Church End Lane, Runwell, SS11 7JE.

Weddings, Parties, Children’s Parties, Dinner Dances,

Presentation Evenings, Dances, Barn Dances, Line Dances

Charity Functions, Quiz Nights, Bazaars/Fetes.

[We do not hire for teenage parties]

Large Main Hall with Stage

Tables and Chairs

Committee Room

Fully equipped Kitchen (crockery/cutlery not included)

For information and bookings contact: Mrs Jo Pharez Clerk to the Council 01268 735152.

**2015 LOCAL ELECTIONS - Thursday 7th May 2015 is Election Day.**

Parish or town councillors have a long tradition of promoting wellbeing and a sense of pride in the local community. If you feel this is you then why not become a councillor?

Do Councillors need special skills other than common sense? **NO** then why not stand for election!!

To be a Councillor you need to:-

 \* Care about getting the best for your community

 \* Have a willingness to represent your electorate

 \* Want to make a difference

 \* Undertake training courses

 \* Adhere to a code of conduct

 \* Register your interests

 \* Have the time

 \* Be committed and enthusiastic

**Could this be you?**

For further details contact Jo Pharez Clerk to the Council 124 Church End Lane, Runwell, Wickford, SS11 7DP. Email jo@runwellpc.wanadoo.co.uk

Telephone 01268 753152

CASE HISTORY

We’re only going for five nights

That’s hardly time to see the sights

So you pack your case, I’ll pack mine

That way we’ll get along just fine

Give me a shout when you are done

I’ll check that yours don’t weigh a ton

My muscles have been long abused

By packing stuff returned unused

My arms you’ll notice have a span

Like that of an Orangutan

My hands hang almost to my knees

Light bulbs I can change with ease

Wait, how is this for an idea

Let me pack your gear this year

John Lowman

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